Commission paid to advertising agencies

*326. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the present rate of commission being paid to advertising agencies for providing advertisements to Doordarshan and AIR;

(b) whether the Public Accounts Committee in its report for 1991-92 had recommended that the rate of commission should be lower than fifteen per cent;

(c) if so, whether the advice has been accepted; if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the amount pending realization as on date from various advertising agencies; and

(e) the amount of money earned by Doordarshan and AIR through direct booking of advertisements by the advertisers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Fifteen per cent.

(b) and (c) The Public Accounts Committee in its Report for 1991-92 on Doordarshan Commercial Service suggested, *inter-alia*, that payment of agency commission at 15 per cent needs to be reviewed. The Committee suggested that substitution of the existing flat rate of commission by a graded structure, wherein the rate of commission is directly related to the volume of business brought in by the individual agencies, might be considered. This suggestion is under examination.

(d) All India Radio:— Rs. 48 lakhs
Doordarshan:—Rs. 18.67 crore.

(e) All India Radio:—Rs. 2.39 crores
Doordarshan:—Rs. 18.67 crore.

Discovery of Uranium in Uttar Pradesh

*327. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Uranium has been discovered in Sorai, District Lalitpur of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for mining of Uranium and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Atomic Minerals Division (AMD) of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) is investigating the uranium occurrence to assess its economic viability. Decision on mining the deposit can be taken only after completing the investigations and evaluating the results.

Golden Handshake Scheme for employees of the Central Public Sector Undertakings

*328. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalized the Golden Handshake Scheme for employees of the Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the terminal benefits proposed to be given;

(c) the number of employees who are likely to be found surplus in each Public Sector Undertaking and the expenditure likely to be incurred in the implementation of the scheme;

(d) the amount of loss suffered by each of these undertakings during the last three years;

(e) what steps Government have taken to improve the working of these undertakings; and

(f) what is the reaction of trade unions connected with such employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Government has not evolved any Golden Handshake Scheme for the employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings. On the other hand it had notified a model Voluntary Retirement Scheme in October, 1988 which could be adopted by the PSEs which had manpower surplus to their requirement. The Scheme envisages that the following benefits would be admissible to the employees opting for Voluntary Retirement:—

(i) the balance in his Provident Fund Account payable as per the CPF regulations;

(ii) cash equivalent of accumulated earned leave as per the rules of the enterprises;

(iii) gratuity as per Gratuity Act or the gratuity scheme applicable to the employees;

(iv) one month's/three months' notice pay (as per the conditions of service applicable to him);

(v) an ex-gratia payment equivalent to 1½ months' emoluments (pay + DA) for each completed year of service or the monly emoluments (pay + DA) at the time of retirement multiplied by the balance months or service left before the normal date of retirement, whichever is less;

(vi) the employee and his family would also be entitled to travel by the entitled class to the place where he intends settling down.

(c) The assessment about the number of employees who would be considered surplus to the requirement of PSE has to be made by the PSE itself. The exact number of employees who could be categorised as surplus in each PSE is, therefore, not available. The expenditure which will be incurred by a PSE which has already notified surplus manpower is also required to be assessed by the said PSE having regard to the pay scale in which such employees are working, the actual basic pay and DA drawn by them, the length of service rendered by them in the same organisation and in the previous organisation and the number of months service left before superannuation.

(d) The names of the PSEs and amount of losses incurred by 109 PSEs during the last three years are indicated in the Statements at S-47—S-50 of the Public Enterprises Survey—1990-91, Vol. I, copies of which were placed on the Table of the House on 5-3-1992.

(e) Administrative Ministries and the Management of the PSEs have initiated specific action to improve their working. Some of the important measures taken for improving the working of these PSEs are financial, managerial, organisational restructuring, technological upgradation, modernisation, signing of Memorandum of Understanding with the Govt. etc.

(f) Since Voluntary Retirement Scheme is on voluntary basis no adverse reaction of the trade unions has come to the notice of the Government.

Withdrawal of Joint Inspection system of coal at thermal power stations

*329. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to withdraw the facility of joint inspection of coal at thermal power stations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the new system has affected the payment of Coal India Limited; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to expedite payment to Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Joint sampling of coal is part of the exercise to continuously monitor the quality of coal supplied to all customers including thermal power stations. Therefore quality control systems have to be stationed at the points where coal is being